

Docket No.: SHO-0041
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:
Kazuo Okada

Application No.: 10/697,080

Confirmation No.: 9729

Filed: October 31, 2003

Art Unit: 3711

For: GAMING MACHINE

Examiner: B. Layno

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
- ☒ excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /BL/

- ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the Issue Fee (37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. The Patent Office is authorized to charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p) in view of the statement below.
- ☒ No item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2). The Certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) is attached hereto.
- ☒ Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Dated: March 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08A/B (09/06)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/697,080-Conf. #9729
 Filing Date October 31, 2003
 First Named Inventor Kazuo Okada
 Art Unit 3711
 Examiner Name B. Layno
 Attorney Docket Number SHO-0041

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
/BL/	AA*	US-6,893,345	05/17/2005	Motegi et al.	
	AB*	US-2004/0029636	02/12/2004	William Wells	
	AC*	US-6,976,915	12/20/2005	Baker et al.	
	AD*	US-4,371,870	02/01/1983	Michael. A. Biferno	
	AE*	US-4,562,433	12/31/1985	Michael. A. Biferno	
	AF*	US-4,568,928	02/04/1986	Michael. A. Biferno	
	AG*	US-4,518,225	05/21/1985	Fredrickson et al.	
	AH*	US-6,853,410	02/08/2005	Matsuda et al.	
	AI*	US-6,720,021	04/13/2004	Wong et al.	
	AJ*	US-6,339,418	01/15/2002	Masakazu Kitagawa	
	AK*	US-6,141,067	10/31/2000	Masahiro Ikka	
	AL*	US-6,642,975	11/04/2003	Chino et al.	
	AM*	US-6,377,339	04/23/2002	Westerman et al.	
	AN*	US-6,954,238	10/11/2005	Liu et al.	
	AO*	US-5,146,354	09/08/1992	Boris Plesinger	
	AP*	US-5,546,296	08/13/1996	Savignac et al.	
	AQ*	US-4,826,296	05/02/1989	Yutaka Yoshimura	
	AR*	US-6,181,301	01/30/2001	Inoguchi et al.	
	AS*	US-2003/0214471	11/20/2003	Rafael Topelberg	
/BL/	AT*	US-6,623,006	09/23/2003	Steven A. Weiss	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² -Number-Kind Code ³ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
/BL/	BA	EP-1260928-A	11/27/2002	WMS Gaming Inc.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind's Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	/Benjamin Layno/ (03/10/2008)	Date Considered	03/10/2008
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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /BL/